

**REPORT/RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
AND RECORD OF ACTION**

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April 6, 2004

FROM: JAMES A. FELTEN, Public Health Director
Department of Public Health

SUBJECT: MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH AND BLACK INFANT HEALTH PROJECTS

RECOMMENDATION: Accept and approve FY 2003-04 funding allocation from the California State Department of Health Services for the Maternal and Child Health and Black Infant Health Projects, in the amounts of \$699,400 and \$878,820, respectively, for a total amount of \$1,578,220.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The Maternal and Child Health (MCH) and Black Infant Health (BIH) projects are on-going programs that were included in the Department of Public Health's FY 2003-04 adopted budget. Acceptance and approval of the funding allocation will allow the Department to continue to receive State and Federal funding for the MCH and BIH projects. In the project budgets, local health realignment dollars of \$502,280 are combined with \$686,681 of State funds, which can be used to obtain an additional \$891,539 of Federal matching funds. The combined State and Federal revenue amount is \$1,578,220.

	Funding Sources			
	State Funds	Local Health Realignment	Federal Matching Funds	Total
Maternal and Child Health	197,460	439,316	501,940	1,138,716
Black Infant Health	489,221	62,964	389,599	941,784
Total	686,681	502,280	891,539	2,080,500

Project Services

Maternal and Child Health (MCH) and Black Infant Health (BIH) are state-funded projects through which local health departments perform core public health functions, including assessment, policy development, and health improvement. The program's focus is twofold: 1) provide and assure that mothers and children, especially those with low income or limited availability of services, have access to quality maternal and child health services; and 2) reduce infant mortality, reduce incidence of preventable diseases and handicapping conditions among children, and promote the health of mothers and infants by providing the appropriate level of care.

The purposes of the BIH Project are to improve the disproportionate African-American infant mortality rate and related health status indicators in African-American communities. A critical

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element is to engage the community and service providers in this effort. The project operates in target areas where the majority of African-American live births and deaths occur, to better identify at-risk pregnant and parenting women and assist them in accessing and maintaining appropriate health care and supportive services. The project provides home visitation and tracking/case management services to 225 families and outreach/canvassing to an additional 750 individuals. All of the 225 families served are high-risk, experiencing the following: alcohol and substance abuse, tobacco use, limited or no health care, poverty, and/or family violence. Approximately 125 families are confronted by multiple combinations of the aforementioned factors. The project also coordinates a community advisory board through which residents, community organizations, and local government address health care coordination, health outcomes, and related concerns within the community.

Funding Process

The State MCH Branch provides an annual allocation of Title V and State General Funds to conduct MCH and BIH activities in San Bernardino County. In addition to the State allocation amount, MCH-funded agencies are permitted to draw federal Title XIX matching funds, generated by funds contributed by the State and local agency, through a process titled Federal Financial Participation (FFP). The resultant federal matching funds are included as part of the budget. Local health departments receive their annual funding through a non-competitive application process. The State requires a separate budget and scope of work for the BIH Project. The agency submits an MCH Allocation Plan (i.e., scope of work) and Budget. After review, the MCH Branch responds with a letter indicating approval of the plan and budgets for the MCH and BIH Projects.

On October 31, 2003, the Department of Public Health received notification of its FY 2003-04 target allocation amounts for MCH and BIH, which are \$197,460 and \$489,221, respectively, for a total of \$686,681. The BIH target amount includes an additional \$8,920 to develop social marketing strategies to address the specific needs of the BIH target population. The notification of allocation from the State was delayed due to FY 2003-04 budget uncertainties. In response to the notification, the Department prepared an application (allocation plan and budgets) for submission to the State, which was approved by the Board of Supervisors on November 25, 2003. On March 10, 2004, the Department received a letter from the State approving the FY 2003-04 MCH Allocation Plan and Budget.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL BY OTHERS: This item has been reviewed by County Counsel (Charles Larkin, Deputy County Counsel, (909) 387-4177) on March 23, 2004. This item has also been reviewed by the County Administrative Office (Carol Hughes, Administrative Analyst, (909) 388-0211) on March 29, 2004.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: Approval of this item will result in no local cost to the County. In addition to \$686,681 in State allocations, health realignment funds in the aggregate amount of \$502,280 are used to draw federal Title XIX matching funds in the amount of \$891,539. Appropriations and revenues for the MCH and BIH projects are included in the Department's adopted FY 2003-04 budget.

COST REDUCTION REVIEW: The County Administrative Office has reviewed this agenda item and recommends this action as all costs are funded by State allocation, health realignment, and Federal match.

SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT(S): All

PRESENTER: James A. Felten, Public Health Director, (909) 387-9146